



IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 (Currently Amended). A software updating system, comprising:

an update data supplying apparatus for supplying update confirmation information regarding the presence or absence of updates for predetermined software via a network;

an electronic device for executing a process in accordance with said update confirmation information supplied from said update data supplying apparatus, wherein said electronic device includes:

acquisition means for acquiring update management data indicating a timing for confirming the presence of updates for installed software;

storage means for storing said update management data acquired by said acquisition means;

judging means for judging based on said update management data whether or not, among said installed software, there exists software for which the presence of updates needs to be confirmed;

detection means for detecting said update data supplying apparatus to which an inquiry is to be made on the presence of updates for said software for which said judging means has judged a confirmation to be necessary;

inquiring means for making an inquiry on the presence of updates for said software to said update data supplying apparatus detected by said detection means; and

execution means for executing a process based on said update confirmation information supplied from said update data supplying apparatus in response to said inquiry made by said inquiring means, and

wherein said update management data is attached to said installed software, and said acquisition means of said electronic device acquires said attached update management data from said installed software, and

said update data supplying apparatus includes:

confirmation means for confirming the presence or absence of updates for said software regarding which there was an inquiry on the presence of updates by said inquiring means of said electronic device; and

supplying means for supplying to said electronic device said update confirmation information in accordance with a confirmation result by said confirmation means.

2 (Original). The software updating system according to claim 1, wherein said update confirmation information is one of update data for updating said software and information indicating the presence or absence of updates.

3 (Canceled).

4 (Currently Amended). ~~The software updating system according to claim 1,~~

A software updating system, comprising:

an update data supplying apparatus for supplying update confirmation information regarding the presence or absence of updates for predetermined software via a network;

an electronic device for executing a process in accordance with said update confirmation information supplied from said update data supplying apparatus, wherein said electronic device includes:

acquisition means for acquiring update management data indicating a timing for confirming the presence of updates for installed software;

storage means for storing said update management data acquired by said acquisition means;

judging means for judging based on said update management data whether or not, among said installed software, there exists software for which the presence of updates needs to be confirmed;

detection means for detecting said update data supplying apparatus to which an inquiry is to be made on the presence of updates for said software for which said judging means has judged a confirmation to be necessary;

inquiring means for making an inquiry on the presence of updates for said software to said update data supplying apparatus detected by said detection means; and

execution means for executing a process based on said update confirmation information supplied from said update data supplying apparatus in response to said inquiry made by said inquiring means, and

said update data supplying apparatus includes:

confirmation means for confirming the presence or absence of updates for said software regarding which there was an inquiry on the presence of updates by said inquiring means of said electronic device; and

supplying means for supplying to said electronic device said update confirmation information in accordance with a confirmation result by said confirmation means,

wherein said acquisition means of said electronic device acquires said update management data from a developer of said installed software.

5 (Currently Amended). An information processing apparatus which executes a process in accordance with update confirmation information supplied from an update data supplying apparatus that supplies via a network said update confirmation information regarding the presence or absence of updates for predetermined software, comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring update management data indicating a timing for confirming the presence of updates for installed software;

storage means for storing said update management data acquired by said acquisition means;

judging means for judging based on said update management data whether or not, among said installed software, there exists software for which the presence of updates needs to be confirmed;

detection means for detecting said update data supplying apparatus to which an inquiry is to be made on the presence of updates for said software for which said judging means has judged a confirmation to be necessary;

inquiring means for making an inquiry on the presence of updates for said software to said update data supplying apparatus detected by said detection means; and

execution means for executing a process based on said update confirmation information supplied from said update data supplying apparatus in response to said inquiry made by said inquiring means,

wherein said update management data is attached to said installed software, and said acquisition means of said electronic device acquires said attached update management data from said installed software.

6 (Currently Amended). An information processing method of an information processing apparatus which executes a process in accordance with update confirmation

information supplied from an update data supplying apparatus that supplies via a network said update confirmation information regarding the presence or absence of updates for predetermined software, comprising the steps of:

acquiring update management data indicating a timing for confirming the presence of updates for installed software;

storing said update management data acquired in said acquisition step;

judging based on said update management data whether or not, among said installed software, there exists software for which the presence of updates needs to be confirmed;

detecting said update data supplying apparatus to which an inquiry is to be made on the presence of updates for said software for which a confirmation has been judged to be necessary in said judging step;

making an inquiry on the presence of updates for said software to said update data supplying apparatus detected in said detection step; and

executing a process based on said update confirmation information supplied from said update data supplying apparatus in response to said inquiry made in said step of making said inquiry,

wherein said update management data is attached to said installed software, and said acquiring step includes acquiring said attached update management data from said installed software.

7 (Currently Amended). A recording medium ~~in which is recorded~~ that stores a computer readable program for an information processing apparatus which when executed causes the information processing apparatus to execute ~~executes~~ a process in accordance with update confirmation information supplied from an update data supplying apparatus that

supplies, via a network, said update confirmation information regarding the presence or absence of updates for predetermined software, said ~~program~~ process comprising steps of:

~~an acquisition control step for controlling the acquisition of~~ acquiring update management data indicating a timing for confirming the presence of updates for installed software;

~~a storage control step for controlling the storing of said update management data acquired in said acquisition control~~ acquiring step;

~~a judging control step for controlling the judgment~~ judging, based on said update management data, as to whether or not, among said installed software, there exists software for which the presence of updates needs to be confirmed;

~~a detection control step for controlling the detection of~~ detecting said update data supplying apparatus to which an inquiry is to be made on the presence of updates for said software for which a confirmation has been judged to be necessary in said judging ~~control~~ step;

~~an inquiry control step for controlling the making of an inquiry on the presence of updates for said software to said update data supplying apparatus detected in said detection~~ detecting control step; and

~~an execution control step for controlling the execution of~~ executing a process based on said update confirmation information supplied from said update data supplying apparatus in response to said inquiry made in said ~~inquiry control~~ inquiring step,

wherein said update management data is attached to said installed software, and said acquiring step includes acquiring said attached update management data from said installed software.

8 (Canceled).

9 (New). A software updating system, comprising:

an update data supplying apparatus configured to supply update confirmation information regarding the presence or absence of updates for predetermined software via a network;

an electronic device configured to execute a process in accordance with said update confirmation information supplied from said update data supplying apparatus, wherein

said electronic device includes:

an acquisition unit configured to acquire update management data indicating a timing for confirming the presence of updates for installed software;

a storage unit configured to store said update management data acquired by said acquisition unit;

a judging unit configured to judge, based on said update management data, whether or not, among said installed software, there exists software for which the presence of updates needs to be confirmed;

a detection unit configured to detect said update data supplying apparatus to which an inquiry is to be made on the presence of updates for said software for which said judging unit has judged a confirmation to be necessary;

a inquiry unit configured to make an inquiry on the presence of updates for said software to said update data supplying apparatus detected by said detection unit; and

an execution unit configured to execute a process based on said update confirmation information supplied from said update data supplying apparatus in response to said inquiry made by said inquiry unit,

wherein said update management data is attached to said installed software, and said acquisition unit of said electronic device acquires said attached update management data from said installed software, and

said update data supplying apparatus includes:

a confirmation unit configured to confirm the presence or absence of updates for said software regarding which there was an inquiry on the presence of updates by said inquiry unit of said electronic device; and

a supply unit configured to supply to said electronic device said update confirmation information in accordance with a confirmation result by said confirmation unit.

10 (New). A software updating system, comprising:

an update data supplying apparatus configured to supply update confirmation information regarding the presence or absence of updates for predetermined software via a network;

an electronic device configured to execute a process in accordance with said update confirmation information supplied from said update data supplying apparatus, wherein

said electronic device includes:

an acquisition unit configured to acquire update management data indicating a timing for confirming the presence of updates for installed software;

a storage unit configured to store said update management data acquired by said acquisition unit;

a judging unit configured to judge, based on said update management data, whether or not, among said installed software, there exists software for which the presence of updates needs to be confirmed;



a detection unit configured to detect said update data supplying apparatus to which an inquiry is to be made on the presence of updates for said software for which said judging unit has judged a confirmation to be necessary;

a inquiry unit configured to make an inquiry on the presence of updates for said software to said update data supplying apparatus detected by said detection unit; and

an execution unit configured to execute a process based on said update confirmation information supplied from said update data supplying apparatus in response to said inquiry made by said inquiry unit,

said update data supplying apparatus includes:

a confirmation unit configured to confirm the presence or absence of updates for said software regarding which there was an inquiry on the presence of updates by said inquiry unit of said electronic device; and

a supply unit configured to supply to said electronic device said update confirmation information in accordance with a confirmation result by said confirmation unit,

wherein said acquisition unit of said electronic device acquires said update management data from a developer of said installed software.

11 (New). An information processing apparatus configured to execute a process in accordance with update confirmation information supplied from an update data supplying apparatus that is configured to supply, via a network, said update confirmation information regarding the presence or absence of updates for predetermined software, comprising:

an acquisition configured to acquire update management data indicating a timing for confirming the presence of updates for installed software;

a storage unit configured to store said update management data acquired by said acquisition means;

a judging unit configured to judge, based on said update management data, whether or not, among said installed software, there exists software for which the presence of updates needs to be confirmed;

a detection unit configured to detect said update data supplying apparatus to which an inquiry is to be made on the presence of updates for said software for which said judging unit has judged a confirmation to be necessary;

an inquiry unit configured to make an inquiry on the presence of updates for said software to said update data supplying apparatus detected by said detection unit; and

an execution unit configured to execute a process based on said update confirmation information supplied from said update data supplying apparatus in response to said inquiry made by said inquiry unit,

wherein said update management data is attached to said installed software, and said acquisition unit of said electronic device is configured to acquire said attached update management data from said installed software.